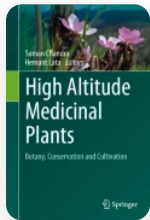


[Home](#) > [High Altitude Medicinal Plants](#) > Chapter

# Illicit Trade and Genetic Erosion: The Plight of *Trillium govanianum* in the Himalayan Region

| Chapter | First Online: 16 November 2025

| pp 495–518 | [Cite this chapter](#)





## High Altitude Medicinal Plants

[Praveen Dhyani](#), [Harsh Kumar Chauhan](#), [Dharam Chand Attri](#) & [Ram Kumar Sharma](#)

## Abstract

*Trillium govanianum*, a perennial and endangered high-altitude herb, is valued for its high content of steroidal saponins. Traditionally, the species has been part of many ethnobotanical applications with the local communities for various health and spiritual benefits. As the species has found its use in modern medicine owing to its anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and anticancer activity, it has been harvested/extracted illegally and unsustainably from its natural habitat. This harvesting and subsequent trade have left the species in a dwindling state, with habitat fragmentation, degradation and a loss of genetic diversity. To highlight the urgent need for the ecological preservation of *Trillium govanianum*, this chapter highlights the species' different characteristics, such as habitat and distribution, biological attributes, and traditional and modern medicinal uses.

The chapter then examines the conservation challenges and subsequently discusses the multidimensional conservation strategy, which is to balance the economic needs of local communities with ecological preservation, thereby affecting the genetic resilience of *T. govianum* in its natural habitat.

 This is a preview of subscription content, [log in via an institution](#)  to check access.

## Access this chapter

[Log in via an institution](#)

## Subscribe and save

 Springer+

from €37.37 /Month

Starting from 10 chapters or articles per month

Access and download chapters and articles from more than 300k books and 2,500 journals

Cancel anytime

[View plans](#) 

## Buy Now

 Chapter

EUR 29.95

Price includes VAT (India)

Available as PDF

Read on any device

Instant download

Own it forever